

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SS-15 SP-02 PER-01 ABF-01
OMB-01 NSC-05 PM-04 INR-07 AID-05 IGA-02 TRSE-00
/057 W
-----131448Z 054606 /43

R 122331Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3959
INFO USCINCSO
JCS WASHDC
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA
AMEMBASSY MANAGUA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 1660

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, PGOV, PINT, CASC, SHUM, ES
SUBJECT: MILGP REDUCTION AND RICHARDSON CASE

REF: STATE 073709, SAN SALVADOR 1659

1. I DELIVERED NOTE TO FOREIGN MINISTER TODAY (12 APRIL) WITH
THE FOLLOWING TEXT:
QTE EXCELLENCY:
QTE I HAVE THE HONOR TO INFORM YOUR EXCELLENCY OF A DECISION BY
MY GOVERNMENT TO REDUCE THE US MILITARY GROUP IN EL SALVADOR TO
SIX US MILITARY PERSONNEL BY JUNE 15, 1977. OUR PROPOSED RE-
ORGANIZATION WILL BE PROVIDED BEFORE THAT DATE.
QTE ACCEPT, EXCELLENCY, THE RENEWED ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST
CONSIDERATION. UNQTE
EARLIER DELIVERY WAS NOT POSSIBLE BECAUSE FOREIGN
MINISTRY WAS CLOSED ALL HOLY WEEK UNTIL TODAY.
2. I ORALLY UNDERSCORED THAT THIS ACTION WAS BEING TAKEN
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BECAUSE OF OUR DISSATISFACTION OVER LACK OF PROGRESS ON
THE RICHARDSON CASE. I TOLD THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF MY CALL
ON THE ATTORNEY GENERAL WEEK BEFORE LAST AND MY SENSE OF
FRUSTRATION FROM THAT MEETING THAT THERE WOULD BE ANY MOVEMENT ON
THE CASE. I ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTER WHEN HE THOUGHT THERE
MIGHT BE A RESOLUTION. HIS RESPONSE WAS A NONCOMMITTAL, QTE
WE'LL HAVE TO WAIT AND SEE. UNQTE

3. I ASKED THE FOREIGN MINISTER ALSO WHAT HIS GOVERNMENT SPECIFICALLY HAD IN MIND, AS TO EXTENT AND TIMING, WHEN IT INFORMED ME THAT GRADUAL REDUCTION IN THE NUMBER OF MILITARY GROUP

MEMBERS WOULD BE NECESSARY ALONG WITH SUSPENSION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE. HE SAID HIS UNDERSTANDING WAS THAT THE REDUCTION IN NUMBERS WOULD BE TO ZERO, AND AS SOON AS THE DETAILS OF TERMINATION OF PROGRAMS COULD BE WORKED OUT, PROBABLY BY THE TIME OF DEADLINE OF JUNE 15. I MENTIONED POSSIBILITY THAT USG WOULD EVENTUALLY CONVERT TO THREE-MAN OFFICE OF DEFENSE COOPERATION AND WOULD THIS POSSIBLE PLAN BE AFFECTED BY THEIR WISH TO ELIMINATE COMPLETELY THE MILITARY GROUP. HE RESPONDED

THAT HE WOULD DEFER THAT QUESTION TO THE MILITARY EXPERTS TO BE RESOLVED SOMETIME IN THE FUTURE.

AT ANY RATE, HE EMPHASIZED THAT EL SALVADOR WOULD TAKE ACTION REQUIRED ON MILITARY PROGRAMS TO KEEP EL SALVADOR FROM BECOMING SUBJECT TO US CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY, REPEATING THE INTOLERABILITY OF AN OPPOSITION LEADER FROM EL SALVADOR BEING QTE CALLED BEFORE UNQTE A US CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE. HE REPEATED THE MACHIAVELLIAN SLOGAN THAT AFTER ALL THE FIRST DUTY OF ANY GOVERNMENT WAS TO STAY IN POWER.

4. I ASKED IF HE WERE AWARE THAT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WAS ALSO LINKED IN OUR LAW TO OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS POSSIBLY ALSO RESULTING IN CONGRESSIONAL INQUIRY. HE COMMENTED ON RECENT DEBATE IN THE US CONGRESS OVER PROPOSED REQUIREMENT THAT THE US VOTE IN INTERNATIONAL FINANCE INSTITUTIONS AGAINST LOANS TO COUNTRIES VIOLATING HUMAN RIGHTS, THAT STANDARDS OF OPERATION OF THESE INSTITUTIONS WERE GOVERNED

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BY INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT.

5. I CLOSED BY REPEATING MY CONCERN OVER THE RICHARDSON CASE, AND HOW THESE AND OTHER EVENTS WOULD CAUSE FEAR ON PART OF FOREIGN TOURISTS WHO MIGHT OTHERWISE COME TO EL SALVADOR, REDUCING EL SALVADOR TOURSIT TRADE, AND THAT GRAVER CONSEQUENCES IN OUR RELATIONS MIGHT BE IN STORE. HIS REACTION AGAIN WAS QTE WAIT AND SEE. UNQTE HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT EVENTS OVER LAST FEW MONTHS HAVE AROUSED CONSIDERABLE THOUGHT ON THE SITUATION HERE AND QTE POSSIBLY SOMETHING GOOD WILL COME OF IT ALL UNQUOTE. LOZANO

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SANS01660
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: b83ebda6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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TAGS: MASS, PGOV, PINT, CASC, SHUM, ES, US, (RICHARDSON, RONALD JAMES)
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